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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/816,372	03/26/2001	Yasuhiko Kanemasa	826.1710	7328

21171 7590 07/06/2005

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EXAMINER

ZHEN, LI B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2194

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

09/816,372

Applicant(s)

KANEMASA ET AL.

Examiner

Li B. Zhen

Art Unit

2194

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 25 May 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☐ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: none.

Claim(s) objected to: none.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-23.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: none.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.


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Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: applicant's response is not responsive. In applicant's response to the Final Office Action dated 1/25/2005, applicant argues:

(1) Hsu teaches the flow controller is separate and independent from the computers, which is inconsistent with claim 1 because the process executing data interchanging unit is an element of the process executing device [p. 9, lines 12 - 16]; and

(2) Hsu does not associated a process executed by a process executing device with a process executed by another process executing device "based on a correspondence relation between ... process executing data and the process executed by the other process executing device" [p. 10, lines 1 - 6].

In response to argument (1), examiner respectfully disagrees and notes that claim 1 only requires that one of the process executing device to comprise an interprocess association information interchanging unit because claim 1 recites "said process executing device comprising" [claim 1, line 3]. Examiner notes that claim 1 doesn't require each of the process executing device to comprise an interprocess association information interchanging unit and none of the other independent claims require each of the process executing device to comprise an interprocess association information interchanging unit. Hsu teaches that at least one of the networked computers is responsible for maintaining a work flow description database, and the same computer or another one in the system maintains a work flow history database [i.e. col. 4, lines 33 - 45]. Therefore the computer that contains and manages work flow description database corresponds to the process executing device that comprises an interprocess association information interchanging unit.

As to argument (2), examiner respectfully disagrees and notes Hsu teaches interprocess association information [col. 12, lines 27 - 39] that associates the process executed by the process executing device with the process executed by the other process executing device [col. 9, lines 36 - 50] based on a correspondence relation between the process executing data and the process executed by the other process executing device [Arc Table 250 contains records 251 that provide information for each data path within a flow; Step Type Table 270 contains one record 271 for each step in each of the defined Flow Types; Port Table 300 defines each of the input and output ports for each step in each defined flow; col. 7, line 63 - col. 8, line 20]. The arch table provides a correspondence relation between processes on executing devices.